



Attn: Chief of Staff; News Editor; News Producer

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For immediate release

Media Release

HOUSEHOLDERS AGAIN URGED TO RESTRICT WATER USE DURING THE TOTAL FIRE BAN PERIOD

Southern Water is reminding all its customers across southern Tasmania to restrict all non-essential water use while the total fire ban is in place, on Saturday 20 February, to ensure enough water is available for fighting fires and protecting properties during the current high fire danger period.

Southern Water's Executive Manager Service Delivery, Mr Ian Dunbabin said that during a total fire ban garden sprinklers should not be turned on and the use of garden hoses should be kept to a minimum. Residents are encouraged to reduce their general household water consumption by using a bucket instead of a hose to wash vehicles and for external cleaning of windows and driveways.

"Through householders acting responsibly and minimising their water use, it ensures that water reservoirs remain as full as possible to assist firefighters in protecting any properties threatened by fire."

"For the benefit of the whole community people need to conserve as much water as possible during any high fire danger period. If warnings are ignored they could be putting their friends, neighbours and their own property at risk."

Mr Dunbabin said Southern Water would continue to work closely with the Tasmania Fire Service and other emergency services involved in protecting the community from fire.

If customers have any queries about domestic water use during days of total fire ban they should contact the Southern Water customer service team on 13MYWATER (13 6992).

For further information contact Miriam Brotheridge on 0409 383 886.